



## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

April 2, 2008

The Honorable Ed Schafer  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Schafer:

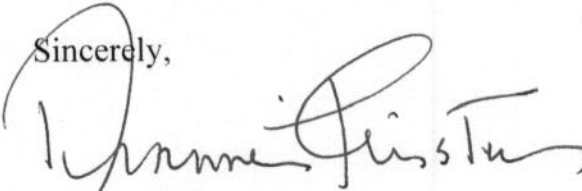
I am writing to convey the concerns of my constituents regarding an eradication program for the Light Brown Apple Moth. Over the past year, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the California Department of Food and Agriculture have been collaborating on a strategy to quarantine and eradicate a newly discovered foreign pest in California – the Light Brown Apple Moth.

Late last summer, with USDA funding assistance, the California Department of Food and Agriculture began aerial spraying of an insect pheromone to control the pest in urban areas. Subsequently the public and some state officials have become increasingly concerned about the chosen control method.

The primary public concern has been the human health effects of aerial spraying. Those in opposition to the spraying assert that no long-term human toxicity testing has been done and they are particularly concerned with the inert ingredients and the particle size of the spray. Other issues of concern are the lack of data for the toxicity to aquatic and marine environments and the efficacy of the control method.

I ask that you provide me with any information that could allay these public concerns. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

DF:gm